

NEXT MAILS
From San Francisco
Tuesday, Dec. 25.
For San Francisco
Wednesday, Dec. 26.

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GREAT KRUPP PLANT REPORTED ON FIRE FOR 24 HOURS

TEUTONS HELD IN DASH UPON VENICE COAST

Reinforced Armies of King Emmanuel Turning Tables on Austro-Germans; Enemy Forces Now Being Shifted

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
ROME, Italy, Dec. 22.—Italian forces in the region of Monte Asalone yesterday made substantial progress, despite adverse weather and atmospheric conditions which hampered observations. News of the successful counter-offensive to the Teuton smash on the Venice coast was given out today in an official statement.

ROME, Dec. 22.—The third great effort on the part of General von Bulow to force the passage into Italy for his Austro-German hosts has failed as completely as the two previous attempts. The Italian line stands secure along the same positions as it occupied when the bloody assaults of Thursday and Friday were made, with thousands of German and Austrian corpses in the trampled snow as the only result of the mighty effort. The Italian losses are also heavy, while the casualty lists of the French and British who took their share in the fighting are long, but for every casualty on the part of the defenders of the passes the attackers suffered three.

Troop Movements Learned
Official despatches from the headquarters of the French army in Italy state that the investigations carried out by the French aviators show that the Austro-Germans are moving the bulk of their forces from the lower Piave, where they have been blocked in their drive against Venice and where they have been held during November and so far into December, and shifting their men to the sector between Vidor and the Asiago plateau, where they may be served with supplies by way of Trent.

Along this same front, reinforcements from the Russian front are also being brought up in large numbers.
Red Cross Welcomed
An American Red Cross party, headed by Robert Perkins, reached Rome yesterday, being enthusiastically received by the officials and the people. The Roman press devoted much space yesterday evening to the news of the arrival of this party from the United States and to the plans for the work outlined by Mr. Perkins. This work, he says, will not be confined to Italy alone but will be extended into the islands of Sardinia and Sicily.

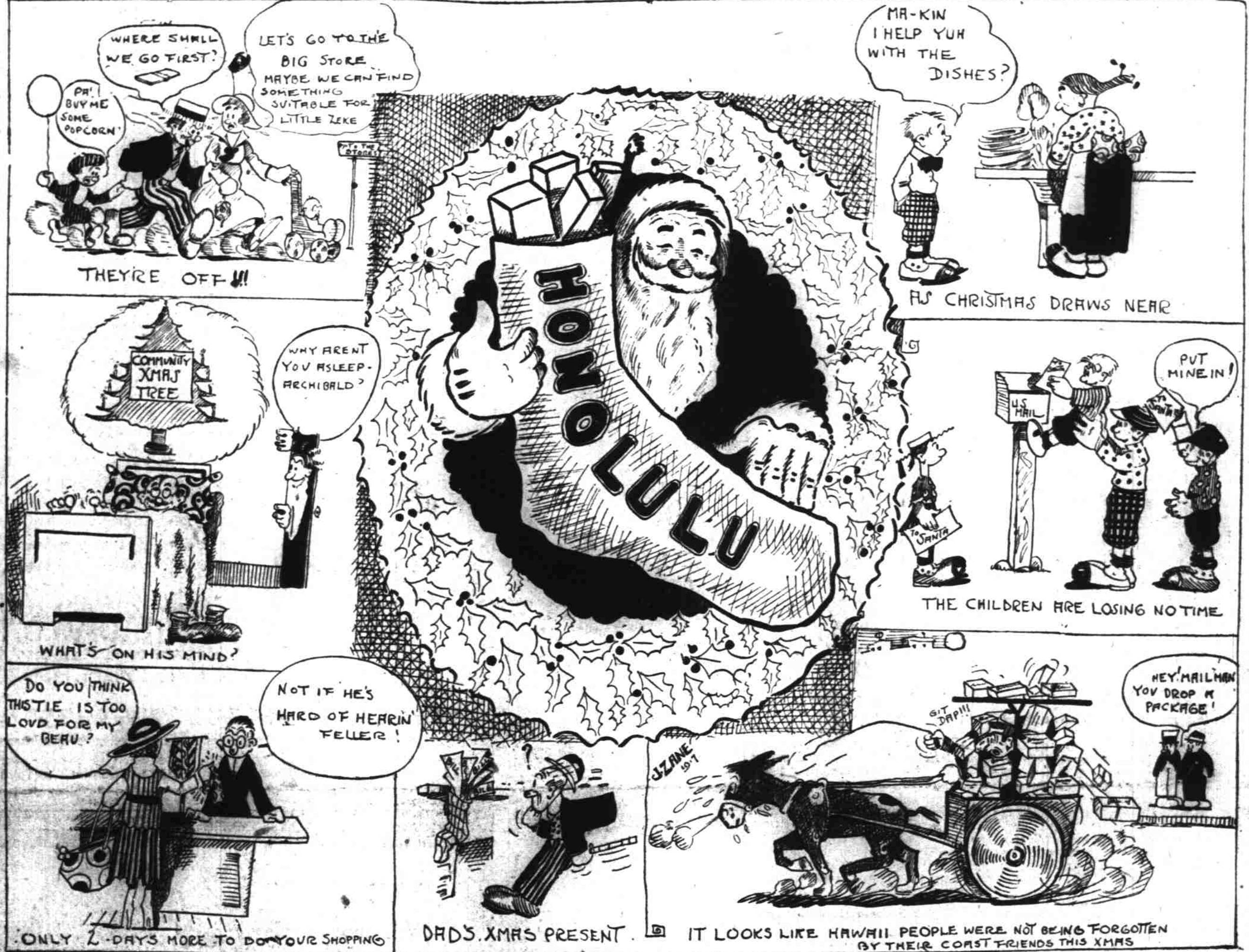
Western Beet Men Called to Testify

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22.—Eleven Western beet sugar producers were called today to testify before the senate sub-committee investigating the sugar shortage. Food Administrator Hoover was asked to appear but did not testify, being excused until a later date.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET TODAY

	Today	Yesterday
Alaska Gold	5	4
American Smelter	60 1/2	70 1/2
American Sugar Rfg.	93	94 1/2
American Tel. & Tel.	99 1/2	99 1/2
Anacosta Copper	55 1/2	55 1/2
Atchafalca	78	77 1/2
Baldwin Loco.	54 1/2	54 1/2
Baltimore & Ohio	40 1/2	40 1/2
Bethlehem Steel	69	68 1/2
Calif. Petroleum	11 1/2	10 1/2
Canadian Pacific	129 1/2	130 1/2
C. M. & St. P. (St. Paul)	37 1/2	38 1/2
Colo. Fuel & Iron	82 1/2	82 1/2
Crescent Steel	48	48 1/2
Cuban Cane	25 1/2	26 1/2
Erie	133 1/2	133 1/2
General Electric	122 1/2	122 1/2
General Motors, New	89 1/2	90 1/2
Great Northern Pfd.	81 1/2	81 1/2
Inter. Harv. N. J.	1	1
Kennecott Copper	30 1/2	30 1/2
Lehigh R. R.	52 1/2	52 1/2
New York Central	63 1/2	63 1/2
Pennsylvania	42	41 1/2
Ray Consol.	20 1/2	20 1/2
Reading Common	67 1/2	68 1/2
Southern Pacific	77 1/2	78 1/2
Studebaker	45	44 1/2
Texas Oil	125 1/2	125 1/2
Union Pacific	103 1/2	104
U. S. Steel	65 1/2	65 1/2
Utah	75 1/2	75 1/2
Western Union	78	78 1/2
Washington	36 1/2	35 1/2

With Santa Claus on His Christmas "Drive" - - - By Zane



Cartoonist John Zane, the Chinese artist, accompanying Santa Claus around Honolulu. Here are a few of his pictorial impressions.

JAPANESE IN OPPOSITION TO PROHIB. MOVE

Plantation Workers Say They Need Sake; Meetings Called to Discuss Action

Because the Japanese laborers on the various plantations of Oahu feel that they can do better work if they imbibe occasionally a portion of sake, a meeting has been called on each plantation, it is said, to discuss the situation and attempt if possible to prevent Hawaii going "dry." The meetings are to be held early next week.
Leaders of the movement, who came into Honolulu today to obtain their Christmas cheer, say that it will be impossible for the laborers to do the amount of work required of them unless they have a stimulant.
The object of the meetings is to ascertain the feelings of the majority, and if it is decided that something should be done representatives from the plantations will meet for the drafting of a petition. The petition will be forwarded to Delegate Kuhio.
It is also said that the prohibition movement is being strongly opposed among the waterfront workers and deck hands.

HATHAWAY MAKES WOMAN DEPUTY

Col. Howard Hathaway this morning took over the office of internal revenue collector, relieving Acting Collector Ralph S. Johnstone. The transfer was made by W. W. Anderson, revenue agent, who came to Hawaii from San Francisco for that purpose.
Immediately after taking office the new collector reappointed the present staff, and in addition Miss Minnie Rudebeck who has been private secretary to Col. Hathaway for the last 15 years, was named deputy collector and stenographer. The collector stated that he has no announcement to make at this time as to the organization of the office.

Army Officers Exempt From Income Taxes

That army officers are exempt from payment of the income tax is the important information carried in a cable to Brig. Gen. John P. Wisner today from Washington. All withholdings which have been made thus far this year on account of the tax are to be returned to officers. The decision will affect virtually every officer in the Hawaiian department with the possible exception of a few second lieutenants on minimum pay.
Income tax returns of the calendar year of 1917 are to be made, however, between Jan. 1 and March 1, 1918. The cable states in part: "no further withholdings of income tax from individuals will be made at source by distributing quartermasters, nor are they in foreign territory required to withhold normal tax of 2 percent from amounts paid to foreigners as laborers, interpreters and other similar employees, or from rentals paid for buildings in such countries."

3 PLANTATIONS ATTACKED BY ANT PEST, REPORT

Reports were current on the street today, especially on the broker's curbs, to the effect that the white ant pest was invading Oahu, Honolulu and Waiwala plantations. H. P. Agee, director of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Experimental Station, said the station had heard nothing of the invasion.
"There is nothing to be alarmed about," said Mr. Agee. "I believe that the rumor has come from the report made at the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' meeting, when our own entomologist told of finding and destroying a small nest of white ants which had eaten the cane on Oahu plantation.
"The white ant found in that spot is

CARTER CHARGES SUGAR MEN RESPONSIBLE FOR SHORTAGE

In San Francisco Interview Former Governor of Hawaii Declares Fixing of Import Price Helped to Create Shortage Which Was Desired By Food Board to Effect Economy

Former Governor George R. Carter is credited by the San Francisco Chronicle of December 15 with intimating in an interview that Food Administrator Hoover and the sugar men forced a shortage of sugar to effect economy. The Chronicle says:

"Sugar men created a sugar shortage to force economy on the American people," former Governor George R. Carter of Hawaii, who is one of the islands' greatest sugar producers, said last night. Carter is at the Hotel St. Francis, direct from New York, where he was studying the sugar situation.
"There is no question that the fixing of the import price on raw sugar helped create a shortage," said Carter. "Another reason was the hoarding, but there would have been no hoarding if the import price had not been fixed, as with the coming of the new crop prices might have declined and middlemen who have hoarded thousands of tons now would have been more chary and probably would have bought just enough to tide them until January. Once the January crop begins arriving there need be no shortage, and sugar men feel that with the greater economy being exercised by the American people there may be more sugar than needed. At least this is liable to be a great post-war problem."

CONSCRIPTION FAILS.
MELBOURNE, Australia, Dec. 22.—Apparently conscription has been defeated at the polls here, unless the vote. The incomplete returns show 749,000 votes for conscription and 922,000 against.

the only instance we have on record where it had damaged sugar cane. The white ant is the same pest which destroyed the old flag pole in the capitol ground. I do not think that they will prove to be serious."
It was learned that a number of interested sugar men left this afternoon for a visit to these plantations in order to ascertain if there is any truth in the rumor that the white ant pest was spreading.

BROWN STARTS PROBE OF WILL CONSPIRACY

City Attorney Says Case Will Be One of First Presented to 1918 Jury

City Attorney A. M. Brown announced today that one of the first cases he expects to present to the 1918 grand jury for investigation will be based on the circumstances surrounding an alleged conspiracy to have probated a document purporting to be the last will of the late Queen Liliuokalani. This document was thrown out of circuit court yesterday by Judge C. W. Ashford, who held it to be fraudulent. The city attorney will not ask a preliminary investigation in police court.
The work of gathering evidence in the alleged conspiracy case has already been begun by the city attorney's office. While Attorney Brown will mention the names of only three persons as believed to have connection with the affair—J. M. Kealoha, Rev. Sam Kamakala and "Princess" Theresa Belliveau—he intimates that there may be others who will be asked to tell what they know concerning the alleged will.

Kealoha and Kamakala, "witnesses" to the alleged will, testified under oath in Judge Ashford's court yesterday afternoon that neither had signed the document in the late queen's presence, but in the presence of "Princess" Theresa and at her request. The mention of the name of Lota recalls a story recently told the Star-Bulletin to the effect that a man named Lota was supposed to "have been on the veranda of the queen's home and seen the signing of the will in her presence as he looked through a window."
With the fraudulent 1917 will thrown out, there now remains for probate the will of December 2, 1909, and to this Delegate Kuhio, who claims to be the next of kin and only heir at law of the late queen, has filed a contest.
Judge Ashford has set next Monday morning as the time for hearing the various matters pertaining to the 1909 document. A petition has been filed to take the deposition of H. C. Carter, now in California, who was one of the witnesses to the 1909 document. It is

GERMANS FACE FOOD CRISIS; POOR RISE UP

Socialist Organ Vorwaerts is Open in Its Criticism of Discrimination; Trotsky Hints That Bolsheviki Will Oppose Kaiser

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
LONDON, Eng., Dec. 22.—News has come here from Maestricht, Holland, that workmen arriving from Essen say the Great Krupp plant has been burning for 24 hours. It is impossible to obtain any further details.

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 22.—A Reuter's despatch from Amsterdam says that the Socialist paper Vorwaerts plainly criticizes the government for permitting the present food situation in Germany. It says that the wealthy people have not been forbidden to hoard food and are doing so at the expense of the poorer classes, and hints at open rebellion because of this discrimination. Unless there is improvement, says the Vorwaerts, "we might have within a month an absolute catastrophe."

Court Unseats This Governor

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 22.—After an election and court contest without parallel in the history of this state for bitterness, the supreme court today handed down a decision which seats George W. P. Hunt once more as governor, and unseats Tom Campbell, who has held office since the election. Hunt, who is a Democrat, contested Campbell in the election and charged misconduct of the votes, the decision resting largely on technical points. After Campbell was declared elected, Hunt withdrew from the executive mansion but carried on the fight in the courts.

Trotsky Declares Against Kaiserism

(Associated Press by U. S. Naval Wireless.)
PETROGRAD, Russia, Dec. 22.—Premier Trotsky, leader of the Bolshevik party, addressing the Council of Soldiers and Workmen today, declared that if the German emperor offered "offensive" peace terms, Russia would fight against any acceptance. He said: "We did not overthrow czarism to kneel before the Kaiser. But if through our exhaustion we had to accept the Kaiser's terms, we would only do so to rise with the German people against militarism."

Baker Would Allow Labor For Farming

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22.—Secretary of War Baker today outlined a plan to permit farm boys of the army to return to their homes at periodical intervals and assist in crop production.
The plan was suggested by Mr. Baker during the course of a speech he made today to a delegation of New York farmers who protested against the scarcity of labor caused by the taking of young men for the training camps.

Armour Company Stockyards Boss

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 22.—The inquiry into the stockyard ownership and meat industry control, by a congressional committee, was resumed today. One witness gave evidence indicating that the big Armour company is the real owner of the stockyards in many Central West and Western cities.
Also expected that the Kawanakana minors will enter into the litigation through J. F. Colburn, trustee.
As far as could be learned today, "Princess" Theresa still maintains that the document of 1917 is valid, and she has announced her intention of standing by it. Thus far, however, she has retained no counsel to represent her.

(Continued on Page Two)